

PROTECTION OF NARRABEEN LAGOON CATCHMENT

Name/s	Ward	Party/Group
Selena Griffith Suzanne Daly Peter Middleton Marcia Rackham Lorrie Morgan	Pittwater	Independents for Pittwater

1. Do you think that the protection of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment is a high priority for the region? How valuable is biodiversity in this area?

We are fortunate to live in a very biodiverse hot spot. We also have a unique geology on the peninsular producing many different environments. Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment is one of the many important ecosystems that we should protect as a priority. The Catchment plays a valuable environmental role in the health of our coast and fisheries. It is also a treasured recreation space with high social, cultural, economic and heritage worth. It could never be replaced.

2. What measures can you as a Councillor take to ensure that the remaining bushland in the Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment is protected from urban development?

There are a number of scenarios where Councillors can work towards ensuring protection of the Catchment from urban development. These include developing policy to assist in minimising impact from surrounding urbanised areas. Work with the community to lobby relevant state and federal bodies to secure the remaining bushland. Review our LEPs (Local Environment Plans) to ensure they support protection.

3. In the last three years the Narrabeen Lagoon and some of the adjoining lands have been made a 'State Park' where Council is represented on the Management Committee. What would you do to expand the State Park and what would you do to ensure the State Park is managed with an adopted plan?

The State Park could be expanded via land acquisition through purchase, donation or land swap. I am unsure how a Councillor might directly be involved in this occurring but we could support any items that come to Council which involve strengthening protection or enlarging the area.

4. Do you think environmental protection should be retained as a key land use objective for non-urban land in Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment?'

Friends have supported the E2 (environment protection) zone e.g. for core bushland, rather than the E3 (environmental management) zone.

In bushland areas where no development should occur, the E2 zone is preferable to the standard zone translation of E3.

Yes. I do support E2 protection.

5. What do you think your Council could do to provide incentives for landowners to conserve natural bushland on their properties?

Education.

Recognition.

Assistance.

Support.

6. In what ways would you as a Councillor influence your council to arrange funding for bush regeneration in the catchment of Narrabeen Lagoon?

Assistance with applying for State and Federal Grants to bush regeneration groups.

Development of local grants scheme.

Provision of training, tools and equipment and tubestock.

7. There are a number of worthy volunteer community organizations like *Friends of Narrabeen Lagoon Catchment* that desire the support of Council. How would you propose Council work more effectively with *Friends* and other community groups?

By proactively seeking input from them. Listening to them and acting on feedback / information.

8. Illegal land clearing is a problem in the Northern Beaches – what actions would you pursue as a Councillor to provide more adequate penalties for offenders and more authority and resources to Council staff to prevent illegal land clearing and enforce compliance with laws, plans and conditions of consent?

Enabling rangers.

Increasing penalties.

Enforcing Penalties.